



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 27, 2009

MAYOR JERRY SANDERS
MEDIA RELEASE

**SAN DIEGO FIRE CHIEF JARMAN ANNOUNCES
RETIREMENT AFTER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE**

*Accomplishments include better equipped and trained
Firefighters, as well as new facilities*

San Diego Fire Chief Tracy Jarman today announced her retirement from the department after 25 years. Her retirement becomes effective June 27.

Jarman was appointed Chief on June 26, 2006. During her tenure, San Diego has increased the number of fire stations from 44 to 47. She also spearheaded the effort to acquire a second Fire-Rescue helicopter, known as Copter 2, and implemented an apparatus-replacement program that brought into the fleet more than 40 new fire engines, trucks, specialty vehicles and vessels (lifeguard boats, bomb squad, and heavy rescue rigs).

“Chief Jarman has done a tremendous job leading our fire department,” said Mayor Jerry Sanders. “She is the consummate professional who has worked extremely hard to improve fire service throughout the city and across the region. While I am sad to see her leave, I wish her all the best in retirement.”

“This was not an easy decision,” Jarman said. “I genuinely love this department and the people I work with, and it has been a great career. I’m proud to have served the citizens of San Diego as their fire chief.”

Enhanced training and education for firefighters are among Jarman’s proudest accomplishments.

“After the wildfires of 2007, I made it a top priority for every uniformed member of the

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department to attend an extensive 'Structure Triage' course to be better prepared in wildfire situations in the course of saving property and lives," Jarman said.

"The success I have enjoyed is due to the support I have received from the men and women of this department who aspire to provide the best firefighting protection and other emergency services to the citizens of San Diego," said Jarman. "I've been blessed with the opportunity to have worked with them and to have received the support I have from the mayor and City Council."

Jarman is the first woman to serve as San Diego Fire Chief. Of the 34 women fire chiefs in the United States, she runs the second-largest department. Chief Jarman serves on the FEMA Region IX Advisory Committee and the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force. She has been a leader in the push to improve fire protection on a regional level, serving as vice president of the San Diego County Fire Chiefs Association. Jarman had the distinction of being named the "2008 Fire Chief of the Year" by the California Fire Chiefs Association.

Although Jarman's retirement is effective June 27, she has agreed to remain with the department for 60-90 days to assist with the transition. A national search will be conducted to find a replacement. Applicants from within the department are welcome to apply.

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